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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of May, 1985)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during May decreased for the seventh consecutive month. The land crew total decreased by thirteen crews, and the marine crew total decreased by six for a net decrease of nineteen.

The May total (364) represents a decrease of 5% from last month, a 26% decrease from May, 1984, a 20% decrease from May, 1983, a 41% decrease from May, 1982, a 45% decrease from May, 1981, a 27% decrease from May, 1980, and a decrease of 5% from the same month in 1979.

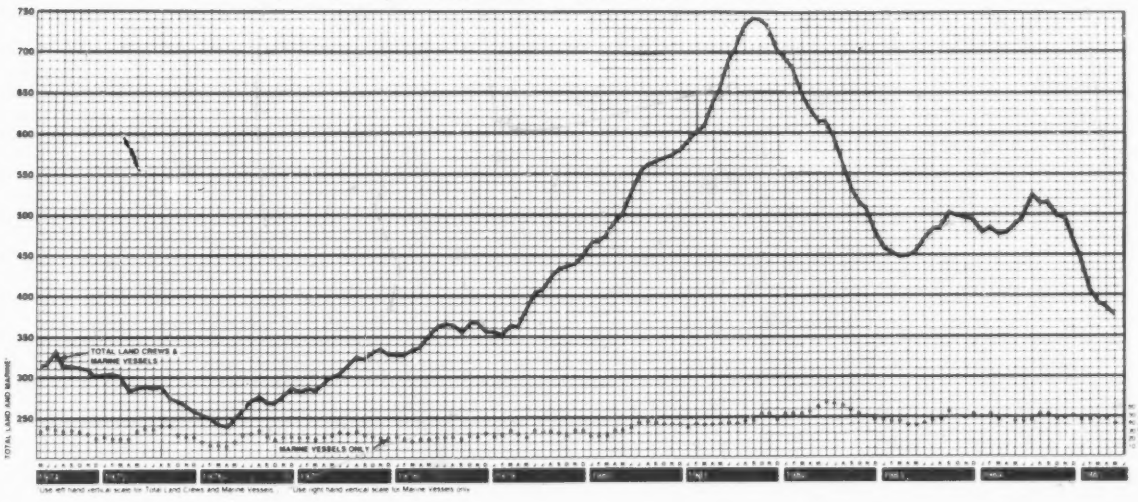
During May, seven contractors were operating seventeen of the 293 land crews and five of the thirty-five vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 364	Last Month 383	May '84 490	May '83 455	May '82 612	May '81 661	May '80 502	May '79 383

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	May 1984	May 1983	May 1982	May 1981	May 1980	May 1979	This Mo.	Last Mo.	May 1984	May 1983	May 1982	May 1981	May 1980	May 1979
70 Contr's:	293	304	406	375	508	578	429	317	35	39	38	33	53	34	28	21
10 Oil Co's:	30	32	38	41	43	41	39	38	5	7	8	6	8	7	6	6
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	323	336	444	416	551	619	468	355	41	47	46	39	61	42	34	28

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)

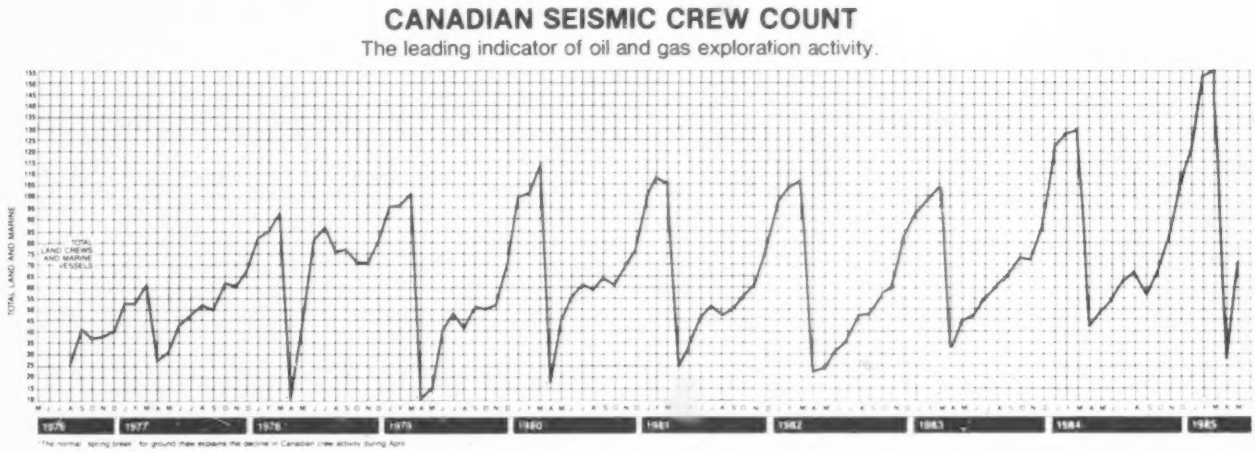


*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

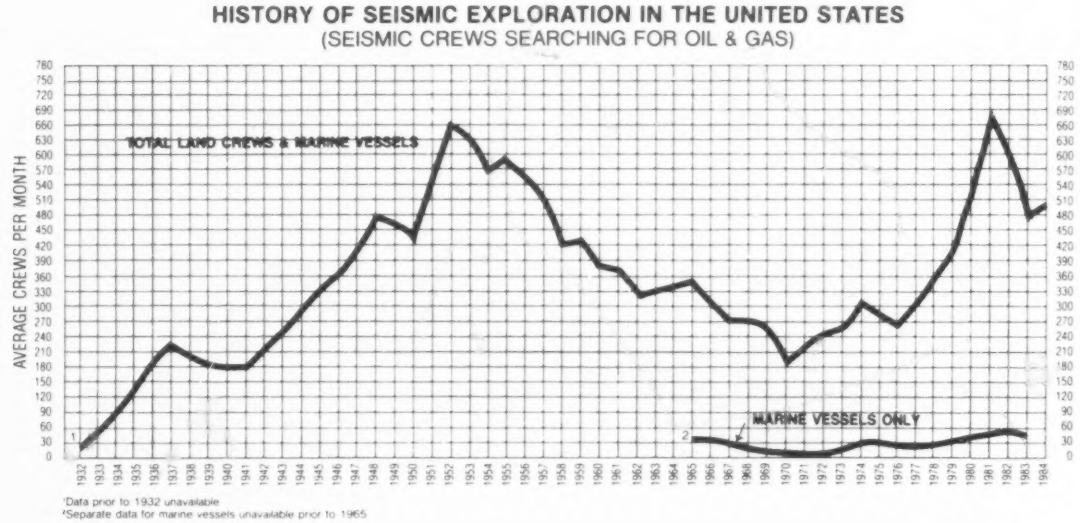
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

May, 1985 (April figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
30 Contractors:	61 (20)	6 (6)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	64 (21)	6 (6)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)
AVERAGE CREWS PER MONTH
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
1
2
1Data prior to 1932 unavailable
2Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965